

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

1-3. (Canceled)

4. (Currently amended) A method of surveillance for the presence of a chemical, biological, or radiological agent, which method comprises:

assaying a sample derived from street debris materials collected from a sample domain for the presence of a chemical, biological, or radiological agent,

comprising the steps of:

(a) treating the sample to reduce the concentration of bacteria that are preferentially bioencapsulated by *Tetrahymena pyriformis* relative to the bioencapsulation of *Bacillus anthracis*;

(b) introducing *Tetrahymena pyriformis* to the sample, and

(c) assaying for *Bacillus anthracis*;

wherein the sample domain is a route undertaken by a street sweeper machine through a city street and comprises at least one collection point from which the materials are collected from a city street in a pre-existing operation, otherwise unrelated to surveillance.

5-19. (Canceled)

20. (Currently amended) A method of surveillance for the presence of a chemical, biological, or radiological agent, which method comprises:

(a) treating a sample derived from street debris materials collected from a sample domain to reduce the concentration of bacteria that are preferentially bioencapsulated by *Tetrahymena pyriformis* relative to the bioencapsulation of *Bacillus thuringiensis*; and

(b) assaying ~~[[a]]~~ the sample ~~derived from street debris materials collected from a sample domain~~ for the presence of a chemical, biological, or radiological agent,

wherein the sample domain is a route undertaken by a street sweeper machine through a city street and comprises at least one collection point from which the materials are collected from a

city street in a pre-existing operation, otherwise unrelated to surveillance, wherein the sample is assayed for *Bacillus thuringiensis*.

21-43. (Canceled)

44. (Currently amended) A method of detecting the presence of a chemical, biological, or radiological agent which comprises:

- (a) obtaining at least one sample from a collection of street debris that has been exposed to the environment and is collected from a street sweeper machine that follows a pre-defined, traceable route unrelated to surveillance and continuously collects the street debris from an open environment along the pre-defined route;
- (b) assaying the sample for the presence of a *Bacillus* spore within the sample comprising introducing *Tetrahymena pyriformis* to the sample, and assaying the sample for the presence of a *Bacillus* spore[.];
- (c) determining a result based on the assay; and
- (d) reporting the result.

45. (Previously presented) The method of claim 44, wherein the *Bacillus* spore is *Bacillus anthracis*.

46. (Previously presented) The method of claim 44, wherein the *Bacillus* spore is *Bacillus thuringiensis*.